



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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For the week ending September 30, 2012

MILD AUTUMN WEATHER GOOD FOR HARVEST

Despite scattered showers last week, corn harvest was coming to a close and farmers have turned their focus to harvesting cotton and soybeans. Cotton, soybean, and burley tobacco harvest was progressing at a near normal pace, while dark fire and dark air-cured tobacco harvest continued to lag behind, reportedly because of labor shortages. Many farmers wrapped-up the fall hay harvest last week. A few wheat growers have begun seeding. Nurseries were active digging for fall sales. Armyworms continued to affect pastures.

Six days were suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent very short, 18 percent short, 79 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent very short, 25 percent short, 67 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures in East Tennessee averaged below normal while the remainder averaged above normal. Rainfall averaged below normal across the state.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn for Grain – Harvested	92	85	78	73	Cotton	1	4	26	58	11
Cotton – Bolls Opening	92	87	83	86	Pastures	2	10	35	48	5
Cotton – Harvested	19	11	9	17	Soybeans	1	8	26	51	14
Cotton – Defoliated	75	50	60	62						
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	72	62	63	74						
Soybeans – Harvested	17	9	11	20						
Burley Tobacco – Harvested	83	71	82	83						
Dark Air Cured – Harvested	88	80	95	97						
Dark Fire Cured – Harvested	80	74	89	88						
Winter Wheat – Seeded	7	N/A	8	7						

County Agent Comments

“Recent rains will slow soybean and cotton harvest for three to four days, then progress will resume. Corn harvest is basically done for the year. We have some fields not being harvested because of low yields. Soybean harvest seems to be above average on most acres and cotton is averaging 1 1/2 to 2 bales according to producers.”

J.C. Dupree, Jr., Lauderdale County

“The farmers in Fayette County have been busy harvesting cotton and beans. Yields are better than expected but are variable depending on soils.”

Jeffery Via, Fayette County

“Armyworms continue to plague pastures. Harvest is running about two weeks ahead of schedule.”

Walter Battle, Haywood County

“Cotton Pickers are in full swing this week. Most of the corn has been harvested. Got a little shower Wednesday which is helping put some size on the soybean pods.”

Jake Mallard, Madison County

“Scattered showers and thunderstorms prevented producers from completing corn harvest this week, but they should finish next week with favorable weather conditions. Soybean harvest made some progress between showers. Farmers are busy with soil testing and land preparation in anticipation of wheat seeding.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Giles County received another inch of rain this week. Crop harvest continued with some late hay being harvested.”

Kevin Rose, Giles County

“We had an excellent harvesting week. We could use some rain.”

Larry Moorehead, Moore County

“Some tobacco damage is showing up in the barns due to poor curing conditions. No frost damage visible to tobacco still in the field. Harvest proceeding slowly due to labor shortage.”

David Glover, Smith County

“No rain and seasonable temperatures made for a very active week in the field. Corn harvest is all but done; about 95% of the crop is harvested with the County average yield estimated at 95 bushels per acre. Soybean harvest activity gained momentum as the crop is maturing and bean moisture drying fast. Early yield reports have been excellent and mostly 50 to 75 bushel per acre. A few farmers finishing up hay harvest. Wheat and canola producers were busy this week preparing ground and planters for seeding.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Corn yields are as low as 20 bu/ac. one or two areas have managed 100 bu/ac, but most reports are less than 50 bu/ac.”

Sheldon Barker, Sequatchie County

“Dry weather all week, farmers busy harvesting corn and soybeans. Corn yields are 30 to 100 bushels plus, depending mostly on planting date. Hay harvest is wrapping up. Farmers made more hay this fall than last spring. Barns are full, ready for winter feeding. Nurseries doing some digging for fall sales.”

J. Dale Beaty, Warren County

“Many hay producers have finished harvesting. It’s mostly Johnsongrass, Dallisgrass and Broomsedge. Quality of hay is medium to fair. Late beans are looking good.”

John Goddard, Loudon County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: September 30, 2012 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending September 30, 2012				Current Week 9/30/12	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	87	41	68	1	0.00	0	32.81	-6.55	22.31	-3.10
Brownsville_TN	86	45	69	1	0.30	2	24.92	-14.36	14.68	-10.64
Covington	85	48	69	2	0.09	1	25.50	-13.04	13.36	-11.32
Dyersburg	88	45	70	3	0.41	1	21.02	-16.46	11.88	-12.62
Huntingdon_Wate	85	41	67	1	0.18	3	25.09	-14.84	16.40	-9.61
Jackson_Exp_Stn	87	42	69	2	0.07	1	32.19	-6.91	21.25	-4.42
Lexington_TN	84	41	67	-1	0.00	0	28.68	-9.37	17.53	-7.17
Martin	85	43	67	2	0.77	3	27.08	-12.47	16.32	-9.82
Memphis_AG	89	48	71	2	0.00	0	33.60	-4.75	22.55	-2.13
Milan	86	41	67	2	0.07	2	30.90	-9.97	20.39	-6.69
Paris	83	40	65	0	0.66	3	25.03	-14.23	15.33	-10.25
Savannah_6SW	88	47	70	2	0.14	1	34.24	-8.11	21.28	-5.43
Selmer	87	41	68	2	0.00	0	34.55	-7.09	21.76	-4.46
Union_City	85	40	66	2	0.89	3	27.43	-11.11	17.83	-7.36
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	85	39	67	2	0.22	2	23.22	-14.65	13.84	-10.21
Cookeville	81	39	63	-3	0.02	1	43.71	0.52	28.58	0.59
Crossville_AP	79	38	64	3	0.00	0	34.99	-7.12	20.48	-6.43
Dickson_AG	82	39	65	-2	0.00	0	30.39	-10.19	18.59	-7.81
Dover_1W	83	41	66	2	0.41	2	28.16	-11.28	17.47	-7.90
Fayetteville_TN	85	39	67	2	0.76	2	41.10	0.76	26.11	1.22
Jamestown	80	36	62	-1	0.01	1	40.90	-0.98	25.18	-2.71
Kingston_Spring	84	39	65	1	0.02	1	33.63	-5.34	22.68	-2.16
Lewisburg	88	35	65	-1	0.01	1	29.93	-11.17	19.24	-7.12
Livingston_WLIV	82	39	63	-2	0.19	2	39.04	-1.11	22.79	-3.69
Lobelville	84	38	65	1	0.04	1	26.86	-14.64	16.23	-10.11
Murfreesboro_5N	84	38	65	-2	0.00	0	34.80	-5.66	22.69	-3.83
Nashville_Metro	85	42	68	0	0.00	0	35.90	-0.14	24.85	1.20
Oneida	81	35	60	-3	0.05	1	41.09	-0.58	24.19	-3.46
Portland_TN	83	42	65	0	0.31	3	34.11	-4.74	22.43	-2.96
Pulaski_Water_P	85	40	63	-5	0.03	1	37.17	-4.18	25.94	0.16
Shelbyville	85	39	67	0	0.04	1	33.22	-8.08	19.30	-6.95
Sparta_TN	84	38	65	0	0.00	0	36.26	-5.40	23.28	-3.66
Springfield	83	40	65	0	0.05	1	38.74	1.38	27.05	2.72
Springhill	87	35	65	0	0.00	0	36.06	-5.00	24.97	-1.30
Tullahoma	85	40	67	0	0.03	1	37.11	-5.31	23.74	-2.54
Waynesboro_TN	83	38	64	-1	0.03	1	36.91	-6.13	25.07	-2.01
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	86	48	69	2	0.03	2	38.29	-2.29	23.96	-0.72
Cleveland_6NNE	83	43	65	-1	0.11	1	34.04	-7.47	22.47	-3.31
Dayton	83	43	65	-2	0.04	1	42.76	0.29	28.43	2.16
Erwin_1W	79	37	61	-1	1.42	2	43.97	5.55	33.27	6.50
Gatlinburg_2SW	78	37	60	-2	0.08	2	45.70	1.40	29.13	-1.08
Greeneville	83	36	61	-3	0.32	2	37.08	3.54	25.96	3.23
Kingston_AG	84	44	66	3	0.00	0	46.99	2.80	32.01	4.07
Knoxville_AP	83	43	67	2	0.00	0	43.45	7.35	27.66	5.02
Newcomb	81	37	61	-2	0.00	0	41.40	-0.27	24.94	-2.71
Norris_4NE	81	39	63	-2	0.52	1	43.20	3.00	26.69	0.54
Tri-City_RGNL_A	80	39	62	-2	0.74	2	38.50	6.60	27.77	6.35

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

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